

ABSTRACT

IMPROVED TELEVISION SERVICES

5 Digital television receiving equipment is provided with access to the Internet for downloading multimedia material relevant to a forthcoming television broadcast. This means that the multimedia material is locally cached for near instantaneous user access by a viewer during the actual television broadcast therefore avoiding any delay that could otherwise occur if real-time access to the

10 Internet were to be attempted. Information on advance television broadcasts may be made available to the receiving equipment by an electronic programme guide. The electronic programme guide may include references to information located on the Internet relevant to forthcoming television broadcasts.

15 (Figure 1)